North Eastern Council

2196. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the North Eastern Council works as a planning body of seven States, for balanced development of the North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, how many meetings were held during the last four years;

(c) the amount granted under various heads of developmental works for each State during the last four years;

(d) whether the amount given is utilised by the States and the target are fulfilled; and

(e) whether there is any machinery to supervise and monitor the planned works?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) As per Section 4 of the NEC Act, 1971, the Council shall be an advisory body and may discuss and make recommendation with regard to:

(i) any matter of common interest in the field of economic and social planning.

(ii) any matter concerning inter-state transport and communication.

(iii) any matter relating to power or flood control projects of common interest.

(b) Three.

(c) and (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) Yes, Sir.

Warning to Pakistan by J&K Chief Minister

2197. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported warning to Pakistan by Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister saying "Do not repeat Kargil, otherwise we will march into POK", as per news-item published in the Hindustan Times dated the 4th December, 1999;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) whether any dialogue between India and pakistan is possible in the near future, to find out any workable solution of the over five dacade old Kashmir crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.